

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows (the changes in these claims are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter and underlines for added matter). A complete listing of the claims with proper claim identifiers is set forth below.

1. (Currently Amended) A combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece to engage a cutting element comprising:
a base provided with a metal table top having a generally planar workpiece support surface with an exposed surface and ~~with~~ an opening formed therein;
a motor; ~~and~~
a cutting element driven by the motor and oriented to extend through the opening in the workpiece support surface of the table top; and
a workpiece positioned on the exposed surface to contact the cutting element.

wherein a surface layer is applied directly to the exposed ~~workpiece~~ support surface of the metal table to create a low friction surface directly between the exposed ~~workpiece support~~ surface and a the workpiece placed thereon enabling the workpiece to be freely moved relative to the exposed surface when the workpiece contacts the cutting element during cutting.

2. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 1 wherein the tool comprises a circular table saw.

3. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 1 wherein the tool comprises a scroll saw.

4. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 1 wherein the tool comprises a band saw.

5. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 1 wherein the metal table top is formed of a metal casting to which the surface layer is applied.

6. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 5 wherein the metal casting of the metal table top comprises cast iron.

7. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 5 wherein the metal casting of the metal table top comprises an aluminum die casting.

8. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 1 wherein the surface layer applied to the workpiece support surface is a plastic laminate.

9. (Currently Amended) The combination of a motorized wood working tool and a workpiece of claim 8 wherein the plastic laminate comprises formica.

10. (Currently Amended) A combination of a table saw and a workpiece for engaging the table saw comprising:

a base provided with a cast metal table top and a general planar workpiece support surface with an exposed surface and ~~with~~ an opening formed therethrough;

a motor; ~~and~~

a circular saw blade operatively driven by the motor in a rotary fashion, the saw blade extending through the opening formed in the generally planar workpiece support surface to cut a workpiece placed thereon and moved relative to the circular saw blade; ~~and~~ [[.]]

a workpiece positioned on the exposed surface to contact the circular saw blade.

wherein a plastic laminate is applied directly to the exposed workpiece ~~support~~ surface of the cast metal table top to create a low friction surface for cooperating with the a workpiece placed thereon for sliding contact relative to the plastic laminate during cutting, enabling the workpiece to move freely across the exposed surface when the workpiece contacts the circular saw blade ~~table top~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The combination of a table saw and a workpiece of claim 10 wherein the cast metal table top comprises a cast iron table top to which the plastic laminate is applied.

12. (Currently Amended) The combination of a table saw and a workpiece of claim 10 wherein the plastic laminate comprises formica.

13. (Currently Amended) A combination of a scroll saw and a workpiece to engage a cutting element comprising:

a base provided with a cast metal table top having a generally planar workpiece support surface with an exposed surface and an opening formed therethrough;

a motor; ~~and~~

a pair of spaced apart blade holders for supporting a blade therebetween, operatively driven by the motor in a reciprocal manner or wherein a blade spanning between the blade holders passes through the opening in the table top; and ~~[[,]]~~

a workpiece positioned on the exposed surface to contact the blade,

wherein a plastic laminate is applied directly to the exposed workpiece support surface of the cast metal table top to create a low friction surface for cooperating with a workpiece placed thereon for sliding contact relative to the plastic laminate during cutting, enabling the workpiece to be freely moved relative to the plastic laminate when the workpiece contacts the blade.

14. (Currently Amended) The combination of a scroll saw and a workpiece of claim 13 wherein the cast metal table top comprises a die cast aluminum table top to which the plastic laminate is applied.

15. (Currently Amended) The combination of a scroll saw and a workpiece of claim 13 wherein the plastic laminate comprises formica.

16. (Currently Amended) A combination of a band saw and a workpiece to engage a blade comprising:

a base provided with a metal tabletop having a generally planer workpiece support surface with an exposed surface and with an opening formed therein;

a motor;

a pair of wheels lying in a common plane, one positioned above and one positioned below the table top wherein one of the wheels is operatively driven by the motor; and

an endless loop cutting blade entrained about the wheels and passing through the opening in the table top; and [[,]]

a workpiece positioned on the exposed surface to contact the blade,

wherein a plastic laminate is applied directly to the exposed workpiece support surface of the cast metal table top to create a low friction surface for cooperating with a workpiece placed thereon for sliding contact relative to the plastic laminate during cutting, enabling the workpiece to move freely relative to the plastic laminate when the workpiece contacts the ~~endless loop cutting~~ blade.

17. (Currently Amended) The combination of a band saw and a workpiece of claim 16 wherein the cast metal table top comprises a die cast aluminum table top to which the plastic laminate is applied.

18. (Currently Amended) The combination of a band saw and a workpiece of claim 16 wherein the plastic laminate comprises formica.